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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/730,066	12/05/2000	Teppo J.M. Hemia	442-009953-US(PAR)	9395

7590 08/20/2002

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EXAMINER

DHARIA, PRABODH M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2673

DATE MAILED: 08/20/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/730,066

Applicant(s)

HEMIA ET AL.

Examiner

Prabodh M Dharia

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 December 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 3,4,5.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

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Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Specification

2. Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

3. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because "Fig. 1" at the bottom of the page needs to be removed or deleted as it is not part of the abstract. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Information Disclosure Statement

4. The information disclosure statement filed WO 00/54479 without English translation fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2), which requires a legible copy of each U.S. and foreign patent; each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and all other information or that

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portion which caused it to be listed. It has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein has not been considered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claims 1-7, 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kikinis (5,220,521).

Regarding Claim 1, Kikinis teaches an electronic input device (Col. 1, Lines 6,7) comprising: a flexible input (Col. 1, Lines 32,33, Col. 2, Line 15) means for receiving user input; and a housing defining a space for accommodating said input means (Col. 2, Lines 7-10, Lines 41,42); wherein: said input device has a first state and a second state; and the input means adopts a compacted spatial configuration in the first state and adopts an extended spatial configuration in the second state (Col. 2, Lines 41,42, Lines 53-56).

Regarding Claim 2, Kikinis teaches the input means has an input surface having touch sensitive areas (Col. 2, Lines 17-20).

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Regarding Claim 3, Kikinis teaches the extended spatial configuration is planar (Col. 2, Lines 25-27)

Regarding Claim 4, Kikinis teaches the compacted spatial configuration is non-planar (Col. 2, Lines 25-27).

Regarding Claim 5, Kikinis teaches the compacted spatial configuration the input means is wound into a roll (Col. 2, Lines 7-10, Lines 25-27).

Regarding Claim 6, Kikinis teaches for moving the input means between the first and second configurations (Col. 2, Lines 7-10, Lines 25-27).

Regarding Claim 7, Kikinis teaches the input means is a keyboard (Col. 1, Lines 6,7, Lines 32,33).

Regarding Claim 16, Kikinis teaches a method for manufacturing of an electronic input device comprising the steps of: forming to the electronic input device a housing to define a space for accommodating a flexible input means and inserting a flexible input means in a compacted spatial configuration at least partially into said space (Col. 2, Lines 35-56).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 8-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kikinis (5,220,521) in view of Kinya et al. (JP 4178684 A).

Regarding Claim 8, Kikinis teaches the input means is a keyboard (Col. 1, Lines 6,7, Lines 32,33,) and output means is a display (Col. 7, Lines 65,66).

However, Kikinis fails to teach the input means is also a display.

However, Kinya et al. teaches the input means is also a display (Page 9, paragraph 32, Lines 8-10).

Thus it is obvious to one in the ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to incorporate Kikinis teaching in teaching of Kinya et al. to be able to meet the demand of portability and size.

Regarding Claim 9, Kinya et al. teaches a flexible output means for outputting information; and a housing defining a space for accommodating said output means; wherein said input device has a first state and a second state; and the output means adopts a compacted spatial configuration in the first state and adopts an extended spatial configuration in the second state (Page 7, paragraph 5, page 9, paragraph 32, Lines 4-10).

Regarding Claim 10, Kinya et al. teaches the output means is a display (page 9, paragraph 32, Lines 6,7).

Regarding Claim 11, Kinya et al. teaches the output means is arranged parallel with said input means so that the input device has two states corresponding to the first and second states of both input means and output means (page 9, paragraph 32, Lines 4-11).

9. Claims 12-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kikinis (5,220,521) in view of Kinya et al. (JP 4178684 A) as applied to claims 8-11 above, and further in view of Furuya et al. (JP 06164440 A).

Regarding Claim 12, Kikinis modified by Kinya et al. teaches the housing defining a space for accommodating input means (Kikinis, Col. 2, Lines 7-10, Lines 25-27) and the space for accommodating said output means a hinge (Kinya et al. page 9, paragraph 32, Lines 4-11).

However, Kikinis modified by Kinya et al. fails to teach foldingly connecting the housing defining to a hinge for an input and output device space.

However, Furuya et al. teaches foldingly connecting the housing defining to a hinge for an input and output device space (page 6, paragraph 9, page 7, paragraph 12).

Thus it is obvious to one in the ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to incorporate Furuya et al. teaching in teaching of Kikinis modified by Kinya et al. to be able to meet the demand of portability and size.

Regarding Claim 13, Kinya et al. teaches the electronic input device is a telecommunications device (page 9, paragraph 32, Lines 1-11).

Regarding Claim 14 Furuya et al. teaches two elements, which are foldable about a hinge between an open configuration and a closed configuration; a speaker located in one element, and a microphone in another element so that the electronic input device can be unfolded to separate the microphone and the speaker (page 6, paragraph 9).

Regarding Claim 15 Kinya et al. teaches a stop to resist opening the two elements of the input device over a certain maximum opening angle; and means for changing the maximum opening angle when the configuration of the device is changed between the compacted spatial configuration and the extended spatial configuration (page 8, paragraph 26, page 9, paragraph 29, 30).

10. Claims 17,18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kinya et al. (JP 4178684 A).

Regarding Claim 17, Kinya et al. teaches a method for manufacturing of an electronic input device comprising the steps of: forming to the electronic input device a housing to define a space for accommodating a flexible input means; shaping the flexible input means into a compacted spatial configuration; and inserting the flexible input means at least partially into said space (page 8, paragraph 26, page 9, paragraph 29, 30).

Regarding Claim 18, Kinya et al. teaches a method of an electronic input device presenting a user interface, comprising the steps of: storing a flexible input means in a compacted spatial configuration within a housing of the electronic input device; extending the flexible input means out of the housing into an extended spatial configuration for receiving user input; and retrieving the flexible input means again into the compacted spatial configuration within the housing (page 8, paragraph 26, 27, page 9, paragraph 29, 30).

Conclusion

11. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Janik (6,108,197) Flexible wearable computer.

Lueders (6,067,074) Keyboard with flexible display and prompt capability.

12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Prabodh Dharia whose telephone number is (703) 605-1231. The examiner can normally be reached Monday- Friday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bipin Shalwala, can be reached at (703) 305-4938. The fax number of the group is (703) 872-9314.


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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4750.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231



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